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PATENT

Docket No.: 12394/1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Shigemi SHIOYA et al.  
SERIAL NO. : (Natl. Phase of PCT/JP00/05137)  
FILED : 26 February 2002  
FOR : ENERGY ABSORBING TYPE STEERING DEVICE, AND  
METHOD AND DEVICE FOR ASSEMBLING THE  
STEERING DEVICE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to examination of this national phase application, please enter the following amendments.

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 12, line 22: Change "BEST MODE FOR PRACTICING THE INVENTION" to  
-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION --

**In the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

a' -- Energy absorbing steering devices may include an outer cylindrical member (OU) that is press-fitted around an inner shaft member (IN). The outer shape of the inner shaft member and the inner shape of the outer cylindrical member have a circular cross-section and the diameter of the inner shape of the outer cylinder member is larger than the diameter of the outer shape of the inner shaft member. A plurality of fine members (W) is disposed along the axial direction between the circular cross-sectional outer shape and the circular cross-sectional inner shape in